NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

Meetings are held at the West Santa Rosa Baptist Church, 3884 Sebastopol Rd, Santa Rosa. Go west on Highway 12 from Santa Rosa, turn left at the light at Wright Road (Fulton), go one block and turn left on Sebastopol Road. The church is on the right-hand side. We are in the building to the right of the Sanctuary.

MEETINGS ARE GENERALLY HELD ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH at the same time and place. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM.

MEETING ACTIVITIES

.ual Christmas Party Planned!
HO! HO! HO! Well it's Xmas party time at the old ST ACE!

That's right boys and girls, Santa's making his list and checking it twice for read and write errors! so be there or be square! Time is December 17th, at the usual meeting place. This will be a pot luck party, so bring goodies to eat and drink. All of you who have santa costumes, come on down! Maybe the righteous old dude himself will appear!

We will be playing last years (back by popular demand) dot game. At the door everyone will be given name tags with colored dots on them, the object is to get together with other people who have the same color dots and figure out what you have in common. More details will be given at the party, and prizes will be awarded to the winners.

A MIDI Maze game will be played, with prizes and fun for all. We need computers for this one! so please, please bring yours! Remember you get two free public domain disks if you bring your computer. We are also planning another software swap at the party.

So bring your old stuff, **original disks and boxes only** please. Maybe you will get that treasure you always wanted! After all it is almost Xmas, who knows what can happen! Door prizes will also be given away, good stuff this time! So here's hopping to see you there! a merry Christmas to all! and to all a good night! HO! HO! HO!

MIDI MAZE
Anyone wishing to play Midi Maze should bring their computer and set up in the big side room.. In addition to your computer, please bring:

* An extension cord/terminal strip
* A three-prong to two-prong adapter
* Joystick
* Midi cables if you have any - there will be extras if you don't have any.

BOARD F DIRECTORS		
Jim Oglesby:	President
Greg Corell:	Vice President
Tom Harpham:	Treasurer
Cathleen Lefevre:	Membership
Wes Malespino:	Secretary
Stuart Warner:	Disk Librarian
Andy Lefevre:	Asst. Librarian
Jerry McBride:	Newsletter Editor
Dave Filipello:	Co-Editor

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Annual dues for membership in the club are $15.00 per family. You may join by paying your dues to the illustrious Cathleen Lefevre (pronounced "La Fave") at the next club meeting or give it to Mark Taylor at Software 1st. You may mail checks to S. T. ACE - ATTENTION MEMBERSHIP CHAIRWOMAN, P.O. Box 3742, Santa Rosa, Ca. 95402.

Membership entitles you to:
1. The monthly newsletter.
2. Public Domain Disks for $5 ea. or 5/$20.
3. 10% discount on Software at Software 1st.

Membership Expirations

Membership expiration dates are shown on the newsletter mailing label. If your membership expired in November, this will be the last newsletter you will receive! To keep your great club benefits, "re-up" right away!

DESKTOP PUBLISHING
- A Computer Revolution

By Dan Fruchey

As some of you know, I recently became the desktop publishing columnist for ST Applications magazine. This was my first submission for publication. Bill Petry felt the article was a little to vague and opted not to publish it. I hated to think of wasting all that effort, and Mark Taylor convinced me it would be of interest to ST ACE members. Remember that this is an introductory article, if you have questions directly related to DTP try checking out ST Applications. - Dan

Introduction

From the "game machines" that first hit the market to the sophisticated 16-bit machines available now the consumer has seen a swift change in how computers are thought of and used. Faster microprocessors and an ever expanding amount of RAM make many advanced applications possible. An array of hardware and software products formerly delegated to the office have made their way into the home. Products such as Computer Aided Design (CAD) packages, laser printers, scanners, and many other commercial products have been adapted for home use. In addition to these new applications a series of unanticipated areas of adaptability were also discovered. One of these new applications has perhaps had a greater impact than most: Desktop Publishing (DTP).

Most of us know that desktop publishing is nothing new to the computer industry, it has been around for several years now. The idea is to incorporate some of the best aspects of wordprocessing, graphics, drawing programs, CAD and other sources to create a professional looking hardcopy that can be used in flyers, newsletters, and business presentations at a fraction of the cost. DTP is geared towards the small business and the home user, the "Freedom Of The Press" takes on new meaning when you consider the ability of each individual to produce professional looking printed materials in this way. DTP has been labelled as a fad, a craze, simple industry hype, and, what I feel to be the most accurate description, a revolution. However you wish to label it desktop publishing has captured the attention of the home user and the industry. One has only to go into any computer store and see the many programs and support products available to be assured of it's popularity and relevancy.

While DTP is popular, it certainly hasn't been cheap. When you add up the cost of the CPU, monitor, disk drives, laser printer, and software you may find yourself looking at a bill in excess of $10,000! The downfall of DTP up to now has been the amount of money needed to invest in such a system - enter Jack Tramiel. With the introduction of the Atari ST line of computers and "Power Without The Price" a new era has arrived for the user who doesn't own a Swiss bank account. A system configured like the one described above should cost around $3500; desktop publishing without bankruptcy has finally become possible.

Best Wishes
for a
Merry Christmas

What Is DTP?

Classifying DTP in any one category is like trying to place a platypus in a single category of animals. DTP is neither fish nor fowl, it is a combination of many products. DTP incorporates some of the best features of a wordprocessor in it's ability to manipulate, import, and redefine text on a page. It's a little like a paint or draw program as it allows you to create simple graphic icons and borders, manipulate multiple fonts in various sizes, and import graphics from paint programs. A simple description of DTP might be that it is a program that incorporates the output from your other programs into a highly useful whole. DTP glues the raw materials that you possess into an attractive document that attracts the eye of the recipient.

Who Uses DTP?

The answer? Almost everyone. You may not own a sophisticated DTP program currently, but at some point you have incorporated some of the aspects of DTP in your output. Need proof? One of the most popular programs for the ST is Printmaster/Printmaster Plus by Unison World. The program allows the user to choose from a variety of fonts, borders, and graphic icons to create posters, greeting cards, calendars, and more. If you own the program, or you combine some of these elements to create your own documents, then you've at least dabbled with DTP. From the child who creates Neochrome pictures and types in, "I love you grandma", to the adult who creates church bulletins or garage sale posters you will find a person who can use DTP. You may not want a $150 program that automatically mixes text, pictures and graphics into a paper artwork but the field is personally applicable to you and your computer use.

Do I Need DTP?

If you are creating the ocassional handout or flyer a paint program such as Neochrome or Degas may be adequate for your needs. For many users a program like Printmaster will meet all their requirements handily. Both of these programs have their uses, both can be **meshed with sophisticated packages at a later date if you decide to upgrade. If you don't know the basics for** programs such as these your later attempts with a full blown DTP package may appear

lackluster or incomplete because of an inability to handle the basic tools needed. Certainly I don't recommend buying software you use on a casual basis, I find it takes more time to relearn a rarely used program than it does to work with what you know best (Why else do so many people still buy a typewrite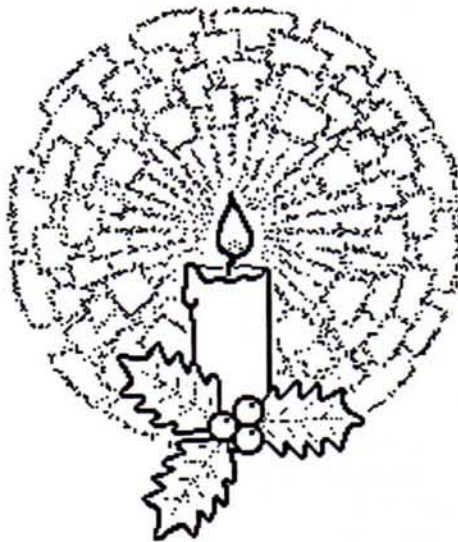r when a computer costs about the same?). If you are creating any form of publication on a regular basis then I heartily recommend you make a DTP software purchase; it's worth the money to spend less time on page layout and gain better looking results.
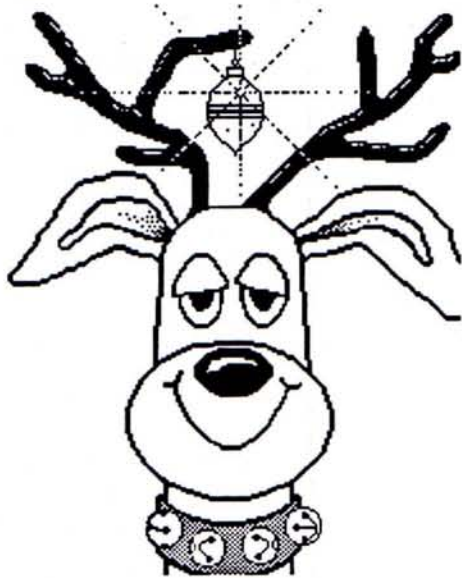
DTP vs. Paint Programs

In some cases a printout of a flyer using a paint program such as Neochrome or Degas may be adequate. However, take a close look at the lettering in your printout and compare it with a DTP program's printout. The paint program will produce blocky lettering that can only be fixed by painstaking pixel by pixel adjustment, it's too much trouble. You have multiple fonts and sizes, but if you want to resize text, correct spelling, or change text styles you must erase a portion of the screen and start over. There is no way to import text, obtain GDOS or Postscript output, or many other features that give DTP that crisp, clean output.

DTP vs. Wordprocessors

There is currently only one wordprocessor that allows the user to access Degas or Neo graphics in WP documents, 1st Word Plus by GST Holdings. There are several products that claim they will allow graphic importation but they have yet to be released. These wordprocessors that allow graphic importation overlap into DTP to a certain extent,

Merry Christmas

however, they don't possess all the abilities available with a DTP program. The current line of WP programs has limited font manipulation capabilities. Can your WP outline, rotate, or shadow text? How many font sizes are available? Can you get multiple fonts like Helvetica, Times Roman, or Old English? I'm not trying to dissuade you from WP programs, I use one almost every day, but they have limited application when you need to create display graphics, banners, or use multiple fonts and styles in a publication. The WP program is geared toward a specific use, meshing wordprocessing with DTP can be much more effective than using wordprocessing alone.

Pseudo DTP

Before I move on I wanted to clarify the position of 1st Word Plus in the order of things. If you need to create quick newsletters without a lot of style or size changes then it is an excellent product for the job. I have created some test documents with Word Plus using graphics and graphic text imported from Degas Elite and the results are great. But I can't currently laser print my documents, manipulate graphics from within 1st Word Plus (stretching, rotation, etc.), print documents sideways, and so much more that it can't truly be called DTP. On the other hand, current DTP programs can't use spelling checkers, a thesaurus, or mail merge programs. Products that do WP and DTP are scheduled for release during the first quarter of 1988, in the meantime it's vaporware I've always dreamed about.

What About DTP Software?

At the time of this writing there are only four complete DTP packages available for the ST, these are: Publishing Partner, Easy Draw, Fleet Street Publisher and Graphic Artist. There are other products currently being produced, some by well established firms who have reputable DTP packages available on other systems (see January ST Applications for a listing of the new DTP products announced at COMDEX). No single program currently available can seriously be considered the "definitive" DTP package, for that matter there never is a "definitive" program of any type. Each program has its own drawbacks that vary depending on the sort of use you have in mind. Each DTP program includes graphic capabilities, multiple user selectable fonts, special effects capabilities, and too much more to mention here. Reviews have appeared in ST Applications, STart, and other magazines on each of these products. If you are eager to buy now I can only suggest you talk to your local software dealer and perhaps try each program out.

System Requirements

The minimum requirements for any of these packages are: an ST with 512k of memory, a color or monochrome monitor, and a dot matrix printer. If you become seriously involved in DTP you will find that the minimum requirements are not enough. All DTP manufacturers also sell support software in the form of fonts, clip-art, additional utilities and desk accessories. A system with the minimum requirements may be limited in the number of additional items it may use, or even in the number of objects that may appear on the screen at one time. Each manufacturer recommends a 1 megabyte system, a double sided disk drive, and a monochrome monitor. Of special note is the monitor. These software packages are sometimes refered to as WYSIWYG (pronounced wizz-ee-wig) programs, WYSIWYG is short for, "What You See Is What You Get." Your on screen representation of a page is a fairly accurate rendering of what the final output will look like. When a color monitor is used the lines, text, and graphics may be inaccurately placed. In addition, some font sizes make on-screen text editing difficult if not impossible when using a color monitor. Monochrome monitors display more pixels per inch, thus, placement and representation of an object is more accurate. This does not preclude the use of a color monitor, however it is a consideration you should take into account. You will also find other products that are useful, if not essential, in creating your page, these include picture scanners, laser printers, a hard disk, paint programs, and much more. The extent to which you pursue these additional items will vary according to personal requirements and the size of your pocket book.

The Bottom Line

In June I attended the "World Of Atari" show in Santa Clara, California. One of the items on the agenda that attracted my attention was a panel discussion on DTP with the publishers of the current DTP programs available. While the manufacturers varied greatly in their opinions as to picture formats, GDOS vs. Non-GDOS products, etc. they were all able to agree on one thing: output quality. THE BOTTOM LINE IN DTP IS THE QUALITY OF YOUR FINAL OUTPUT. When you print a copy of your document what does it look like? Are the lines smooth and even on the curves? Is the text legible? Are the graphics and text lined up correctly? Would you be proud to distribute the page or will it "get by"? If you're a little disappointed with current methods and their results then try DTP.

<div align="center">* * * * * * * *</div>

Editor's Note:

Special Thanks to Dan for submitting this article. For the information of our readers. Several new Desktop Publishing programs were announced at COMDEX to be released "soon". Here is a list of these:

Deskset - by Atari and G.O. Graphics Inc.

Calamus - by ISD Marketing has all the features of Ventura Publisher.

Publishing Partner Professional - by Softlogic. The big differences in the new are listed below:

1. Text flow around any graphic regardless of shape.

2. Uses Easy Draw or IMG (IBM standard) files, which opens all IBM clip art for use on the ST.

3. Importing of 1st Word or Word Writer files directly,

4. Rotation of text or graphics in one degree increments.

5. Smooth font scaling from 2 to 216 points

GFA Publisher - by GFA

Timeworks Desktop Publisher - by Timeworks

This months issue of ST Informer has more details.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

THOMAS L. HARPHAM
9657 BENNETT VALLEY RD.
PO. BX. 277
GLEN ELLEN, CA.95442
Ph. 707-935-3930

Chemical   Automation

Dear Editor

I'm in the industrial detergent business and my company has changed in the past few years. It has gone from a company who manufactures and sells a line of products to a company who also manufactures and sells a line of computer controlled dispensing equipment. No one in advertising has put anything out saying this so I developed the above letterhead for myself. I did it with First Word Plus.

I have been eagerly awaiting First Word Plus for along time because of its reported graphics features. My only problem was that I'm not very skilled in the fine points of my ST.'s operation and it scared me. I just knew I'd never figure it out by myself. However, after watching Mark Taylor's demo at the last meeting, I went home and gave it a try and I couldn't believe my eyes. I made it work the very first time through. I thought,"Boy did I get lucky", and tried it again. It worked then too, I just could not believe it. Now my head started to get big, what a com- puter whiz I was becoming. I have since made several others and have come to realize, it's the program and Mark's instruction sheet. Why any old idiot can run this thing. Seriously, I'm really impressed with this one.

I'm no artist, but I have always longed to be somewhat creative and have always envied those to whom this ability came naturally. I'm finding that with Clip-Art and First Word Plus I can be, in a limited way, creative! Boy, do I like that. So, if an old idiot like me can figure this program out then I guess just about anyone can, and for these reasons I highly recommend First Word Plus. By the way, I showed my letterhead to my Western Regional Manager and he was so impressed that he is taking it back to the home office with the recommendation that it be incorporated into the company logo. How about that!

Tom Harpham

ST ACE

PUBLIC DOMAIN

LIBRARIAN ERROR** Last month at the meeting we sold five copies of the new ST WRITER Elite disk. Unfortunately they were slightly flawed. Oh OK they were totally useless. If those who bought them will return them we will supply fresh copies that work. My copy program blew it on this one. Sorry.

LOOK WHAT'S COMING!

CHRISTMAS BONANZA - We have five new disks this month. Just in time for Christmas. So don't miss the party and pick up some good new stuff!

ST ACE Disk #42 GAMES - This disk has five games.
*CADENZA - A checkers game with a desk accessory version.(M/H)
*SPACEWAR3 - Great two player space shootemup with many variable options-shields, gravity, thrust,etc.,etc.(low or high)
*GOBOARD - The Japanese classic game comes to the ST (M/H)
*STOCKS - Here's your chance to beat the next crash! A portfolio simulation game in text. (M/H)
STONEDLX - The greatly expanded version of Stoneage with 10 new screens, multiple levels and a super easy editor to make and save your own screens. (low)

ST ACE Disk #43 Children's Games - Here are five for the little ones.
*KIDMIXUP - Rearrange pictures to form the story. Good GFA graphics. (L)
*KIDSONG - Sing along as you create the features of "Aiken Drum". (L)
*POTATO - Another GFA graphics game for tykes. Make up Mr. potato or match the computers version. Mouse controlled (L)
*MATCHING - Concentration with variable point cards and score keeping. Computer stuff on some cards. (M)
+NIM - Devilish little simple logic game. Easy to learn and play but can you win? (L/M)

ST ACE Disk #44 - Utilities
'DEGASAVE - Save the screen to Degas format on disk without using a desk accessory. Save non-GEM screens. (L,M,H)

*AUTODATE - The best and easiest date/time program for your AUTO folder yet to come along. Absolute minimum key strokes.
*GEMACC - Run GEM accessories from a command shell such as the one from Compute ST. Has Batch capabilities.
*PRINT - Includes ACC and PRG versions. Use printer codes to command any printer, even from within GEM programs. Save files for easy reset.(L,M,H)
*QUICKLABL - Just that. Quick and easy. No saving, no frills.(M,H)
*RECORD2.0 - Data base for your Audio library.(M,H)
*VIDEOLIB - Data base for your Video library. Has print function.(M,H)
*PM2DEGAS - Converts Printmaster files to Hi Res Degas. (H)
+TWISTER - Extended Formatter. Quick, easy, safe, fast read speeds.(L,M,H)

ST ACE Disk #45 - Games
*GALWAR - Space Invaders Type game which uses stick movement as well as button to fire. Multiple levels. (M,L)
*GUESSIT - Guess hidden letters with interesting graphics and scoring twists. Movies, TV titles. (M,H)
*FASTLIFE - The cell reproduction game with increased speed and a number of variations. (M)
*LABYRINTH - Move your marble through the maze without falling in the holes. Editor to create new mazes in Degas as well. (L)
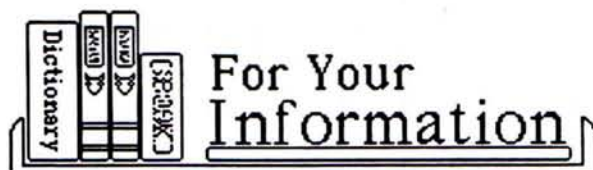*WORDTEST - Really fun text game. A one shot deal but lots of fun. DON'T CHEAT!!
+TRUCKER.TOS - Text adventure. Drive your Big Rig coast to coast.

ST ACE Disk #46 - Pac Man & Wheel of Fortune V2.0 Pac man from Germany with great GFA Graphics. This WOF has an editor to make your own puzzle files and many new files included. New Wheel "touch" feature.

That's all for this month. Club disks are $5.00 each for club members, and $10 for non-members. When mail ordering disks, please remember to include an additional 75 cents for postage and handling. The club's mailing address is listed on the back page. Mark your requests "ATTENTION DISK LIBRARIAN". Please allow 4 weeks for delivery.

Please use the order form on the back page.

For Your Information

SUPER NEW MODEM PROGRAM

For those readers who are looking for a top notch MODEM program that is EASY to use (yes I said easy); INTERLINK ST is the program for you. This GEM-based program is very easy to use, even for novice MODEM users, yet it has many powerful features other programs only dream of. The following is a feature summary:

1. INTERLINK ST allows you to access your computer when away from home. It automatically answers and allows you to upload or download files with three security levels available.

2. You may run other programs (such as 1st Word, etc) or perform disk functions (print file, show file, rename, copy, delete, etc) without exiting INTERLINK.

3. Two main screens: An online screen 80 columns by 24 lines, and a GEM window for the buffer which allows you to access the many features of the program. A full status display is provided as well; letting you know things like BAUD rate, buffer space available, elapsed connect time, and much more.

4. Buffer window has entry and editing features, making the program a mini word processor.

5. The easiest and most powerful autodial features seen to date. The program can memorize all the commands you make when calling an online service, then perform them all by itself at any time you specify. (let's say you want stock quotes for IBM and Union Oil Co. INTERLINK will see how you access these quotes, and then repeat what you did at a specified time. You could have the computer get quotes for your stocks automatically at 2:00 AM and print them out. You grab the sheet and read it while drinking your morning coffee!)

6. INTERLINK allows you to set up a string of commands that let you log on to complicated BBS's with a single keystroke.

7. Supports Xmodem, Xmodem (CRC), Ymodem, Ymodem Batch, and ASCII. It does NOT support either Kermit or VT 100 at THIS TIME. However, this capability will be available soon.

INTERLINK allows you to add these features later.

8. 20 user-definable function keys

9. Loadable terminal emulation and transfer protocols. This program should be available in retail stores (like Software 1st). Or write to:

Intersect Software Corp.
3951 Sawyer Rd, Suite 108
Sarasota, FL 34233

Price: 39.95: available for Color or Mono.

ST NEWSPAPER SHINES BRIGHT
By Jerry Mc Bride

ST Informer deserves a word of praise. Note: do not confuse this with ST Applications - a magazine. ST Informer is published in Grants Pass Oregon and is one of the top publications for the ST bar none! ST Informer is geared toward letting its readers know what is going on in the ATARI world, it is a great place to learn about new software and hardware available for the ST. One thing that makes ST Informer better than many magazines is that its information is fresh - magazines take two to three months to get information to readers. ST Informer is a newspaper, and delivers information faster. ST informer gives information about making money with your ST. It gives up to date reports on educational and business software - a welcome relief from magazines that harp about last year's games, or yap about how to do arcane things with C.

I have nothing against programming. But many magazines devote space to programming, which is fair enough, if you are a programmer. But I want to keep abreast of current events, hardware and software products, and news in general. I don't program in C or Forth or Modula 2, and I don't like paying for magazine articles I don't need or want. ST Informer provides an information service which can be appreciated by all ST owners, at a very low price.

If you wish to subscribe, send $15 to:

ST Informer
909 NW Starlite Place
Grants Pass, OR 97526

News

ATARI ANNOUNCES NEW SUPERCOMPUTER

ATARI announced it's future computer offering, known as ABAQ. ABAQ will use revolutionary new computer chips known as transputers, a 32 bit Reduced Instruction Set (RISC) device which runs at 10 to 12 Million Instructions Per Second (MIPS) or 1.5 Million FLoating point OPerations per second (MFLOPS)! The transputer runs at a blinding 20 MHz clock speed (the ST runs at 8 MHz).

The T-800 transputer allows you to connect machines which can run in parallel, that is, if you hook two ABAQs together you get a single computer that is twice as powerful.

Up to 13 transputer processors can be placed in a single computer, providing operation at 130 MIPS or 200 MFLOPS. This is the equivalent of 1/10 of a CRAY supercomputer, or easily the equal of any normal mainframe computer. Now get this, because the ABAQ machine can be 'inked with others of its kind, you can connect .0 of them together and you have the equivalent of a CRAY supercomputer at a very small fraction of the cost of a CRAY (I think the Pentagon owns one). In essence, any number of ABAQ machines can be connected together, each with up to 13 processors, to create a single computer.

ABAQ machines are designed so they can be networked in a multi-workstation environment. Not only can data be shared across one network, but if one workstation is running a program that requires large amounts of computing power, and another workstation is sitting idle, the second workstation's processing power will be utilized to speed up the program.

The basic system will come with one processor, four megabytes of RAM, one megabyte of dual ported video RAM, high speed Blitter, and card slots for three add on boards. The single system can be expanded to 64 megabytes of RAM, and hold extra processor boards, each containing up to four T-800 transputers. The basic system will probably sell for around $5,000.

As a Computer Aided Drawing workstation, the ABAQ can do flood fills at 100 megapixels er second. The highest screen resolution is 1280 x 960 pixels with 16 colors per pixel. The next resolution offers 1024 x 786 pixels with 256 colors per pixel. Next comes 640 x 480 (the same as the ST's monochrome), followed by low resolution - 512 x 480, with 16,777,216 colors per pixel.

Initially the ABAQ will be configured as an add on to the Atari ST, allowing programs to run on the ST and have their output redirected to the higher resolution monitors driven by the ABAQ system, or to have programs running on the ABAQ with the ST acting as an intelligent Input/Output (I/O) system. It is possible to have many ST's connected to a single ABAQ via networking hardware.

The ABAQ looks rather like a box. the high resolution monitor sits on top of it.

Announcing

NEW "LOW" COST MONOCHROME VIDEO DIGITIZER

Digital Vision Inc. (maker of ComputerEyes™ video digitizer) has announced a lower cost monochrome system which retails for $149.95. You may digitize in low, medium, or high resolution, taking a picture in 6, 12, or 24 seconds, respectively.

Digital Vision, Inc.
66 Eastern Avenue
Dedham, MA 02026.

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS 1987

A Parody By Andy and Cathleen Lefevre
adapted from A Visit From St.Nicholas By Clement C. Moore

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house
    Not a creature was stirring,except for my mouse.

The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
    In hopes to be filled with the best new software.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
    While visions of " Midi Maze " played in their heads.

And Mamma in her kerchief and I in my cap,
    Had just settled down for a game of " Mouse Trap ".

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
    I sprang from my chair to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,
    Hooked my foot on the powercord and caused my program to crash.

When I came to my senses,I rose from the floor;
    Ma rebooted the computer and was ready for more.

I reached the window; the sound grew near, When what to my
wondering eyes should appear,
    But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer,

With a little old driver so lively and quick,
    I knew in a moment it must St. Nick.

ı thought I must be going insane,
    I had finally played one too many computer game.

Then Santa flew by;and he held in his hand
    An Atari ST,playing a full Midi band.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came.
    And a synthisized voice called them by name:

"Now, Dasher! now, Prancer! and Vixen! On Comet!
on Cupid! on, Donner and Blitzen!

To the top of the porch to the top of the wall
    Be careful reindeer the Ataris must not fall!"

So up to the house-top the coursers they flew
    With a sleigh full of computers,and software,too.

As I drew in my head,and was turning around,
    Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, an Atari pin on his chest;
    I always knew Santa would use only the best.

A sack of computers he had flung on his back,
    And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.

His eyes how they twinkled! His dimples how merry!
    He laughed when he read I wanted " Leisure Suit Larry ".

When he pulled out " Spectrum 512 ", his mouth was drawn up like a bow,
    Now my wife will be able to paint like Van Gogh.

As he read from his list, He pulled from his bag disk after disk:
    Airball, Gauntlet, and Printmaster Elite!
    Space Quest, Easy Draw, and even Fleet Street!

Yes, it amazed me,St.Nick," the high tech elf ".
    And I laughed when I saw him,in spite of myself.

But a wink of his eye,and a twist of his head,
    Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
    Filled the stockings with software;

Then turned with a jerk,   And laying his finger aside of his nose,
    Put a program in his computer, Then up the chimney he rose.

He sprang to his sleigh,to his team gave a whistle,
    And away they all flew like an Azarian missle.

But I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight,

"Happy Christmas to all and good computing tonight."

P.D. DISKS BY MAIL

Dear ST ACE, Please send me the following disks;

Disk #	Disk Name
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Total number of disks _____ x $5.00 = _____

Postage and handling fee =   .75

TOTAL ENCLOSED   = _____

My Name_____

Address_____

City _____ Zip _____

Mail check to: ST ACE - Attn. Disk Librarian
               P.O. Box 3742
               Santa Rosa, CA 95402

ST
ATARI
COMPUTER
ENTHUSIASTS

ST ACE
of
Sonoma County
P,O. Box 3742
Santa Rosa, Ca. 95402

SANTA ROSA, CA
PM
DEC 9
1987
954

ALWAYS
USE ZI
CODE

Jim Moran, Sec.
SLCC Newsletter Exchange
P.O. Box 1506
San Leandro, Ca. 94577